

# Public Workshop

Rhode Island Department of Transportation  
and the  
Town of Barrington

Safety Study  
for the  
“WAMPANOAG TRAIL”

February 8, 2006



**Town of Barrington**



**Rhode Island Department  
of Transportation**

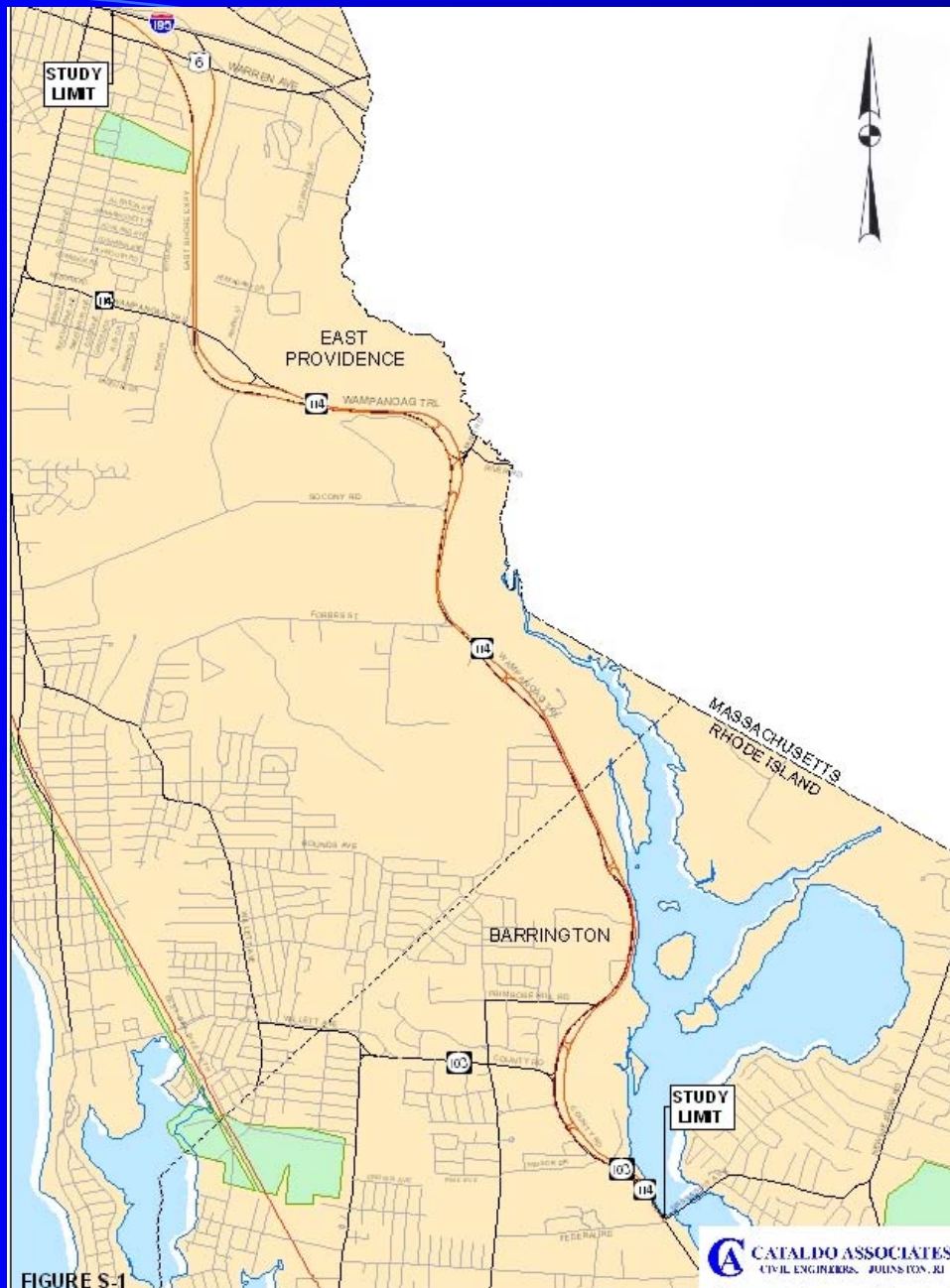
# Welcome from the Rhode Island Department of Transportation



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# Study Limits

I-195 to Massasoit  
Ave/Federal Road

5.5 Miles



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# Goals of the Study

- ❖ To perform a Safety Review of Wampanoag Trail
- ❖ Address short and long term improvements



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# Existing Roadway Conditions

- Constructed in the late 1950's
- 4 Lane Divided Highway to 600' north of Massasoit Ave.
- 2 Lane Roadway from Massasoit Ave. to 600' north
- Shoulder widths vary from 2' to 10'
- Median width varies between 2' to 120'
- One Traffic Signal (Mink Road)
- 7 Median Breaks that allow U-Turns
- 19 Side Streets and Over 80 Driveways



# Traffic Data and Analysis

- 32,000 AADT between Mink Rd. and Forbes St.
- 25,400 AADT north of County Road
- Posted Speed Limits Vary from 50 mph in northern section to 35 mph in the southern section
- Spot Speed Studies at Sixteen (16) Location
- Over 90% of the vehicles travel over the Posted Speed Limits
- Almost 40% of the vehicles travel 10 mph or more over the Posted Speed Limits



# Accident Analysis

- In a 5 year period between 2000 and 2004, 623 accidents occurred within the 5.5 mile roadway study limits



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# Accident Analysis – Roadway Segments

- Wampanoag Trail Overpass to Mink Road
  - 84 Accidents
  - 63% of accidents were fixed object type
- Mink Road to Forbes Street
  - 28 Accidents
  - 50% of accidents were fixed object type
- Forbes Street to Massasoit Avenue
  - 90 Accidents
  - 40% of accidents were fixed object type





# Wampanoag Trail @ Mink Road



83 Total  
Accidents

76% Rear-end



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# Wampanoag Trail @ Forbes Street



36 Total  
Accidents

87% Rear-end



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# Wampanoag Trail @ County Road



143 Total  
Accidents  
(Side Road)

93% Rear-end



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# Accident Analysis Summary

- The accident rate on Wampanoag Trail is lower than other similar facilities
- Even though the accident rate is not high, the severity of the accidents is a concern
- There have been 5 fatalities in the 5 year study period





# Contributing Factors to Accidents

- ❑ Changing Characteristics of Roadway
- ❑ Speeding
- ❑ Driver Distractions (cell phones)
- ❑ Fixed objects along roadside
- ❑ Non-forgiving roadway (no room for error or recovery)



# Roadway Improvements

## Short Term (Summer '06)

- Tree cutting
- Addition of guardrail
- Upgrade Signing
- New Striping



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# Intersection Improvements @ Mink Road (Summer '07)

- Re-configure Southbound Left Turn Lane (add additional vehicle storage at signal)
- Modify and re-strip Northbound Acceleration Lane
- Upgrade Signing
- New Striping



# Roadway Improvements

## Long Term

- Major Upgrade of Wampanoag Trail
  - Project would need to be incorporated in the State's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Future development needs to be considered along corridor
- Roadway re-alignment
  - Median breaks and U-turn closures
  - Interchanges
  - Roundabouts
- Drainage System upgrades
- Replace deteriorating sloped face curbing
- Pavement Resurfacing
- Beautification



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# Questions



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